



Fergusson Intermediate School

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"High expectations for all"



Newsletter Friday 11th May, Week 2, Term Two 2018

Kia ora Koutou / Hi Team

Two weeks in and it has been a fantastic start to Term 2. I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing all the great things going on across the school both inside and outside the classroom. On any given day you can see Robots or inspiring performances, smell delicious aromas coming from the foods room, hear shouts of encouragement and excitement from the many sports teams and games as well as feeling the unique energy of almost 500 adolescents as they socialise, learn, and continue to grow and develop their independence and identity.

One of the issues facing many of our young people today is the way they act and interact with social media. Further down in this newsletter there are some important messages about online behaviour and social media and I urge you all to have a conversation about this even if you think your child / children are not active on social media as they may still be exposed to issues through their peers.

Thank you for your efforts in keeping our kids safe at the drop off zone. We have seen a huge improvement and the buses are able to drop kids off in a manner that is much safer for all. Our new classrooms are 99% ready and we are looking forward to getting our library back and moving our two classes into the new area. I want to give a special thanks to Brigitte, Karen, Susan, Fiona, Scott and all the students who have managed the past term and a bit in a temporary space. You did this so well and I am grateful for your flexibility and "make it work" approach.

Next week (Friday) is Pink Shirt Day. www.pinkshirtday.org.nz This will be a fun day where we encourage all students to wear something pink (shades of red are okay) to raise awareness around diversity, acceptance, tolerance and the right to be yourself. Celebrated annually around the globe, Pink Shirt Day began in [Canada in 2007 when two students took a stand against homophobic bullying](#), mobilising their whole school, after a peer was bullied for wearing a pink shirt. In New Zealand, Pink Shirt Day aims to create schools, workplaces and communities where all people feel safe, valued and respected. We hope you will support us with this and have a fun "pink" day.

Please make sure you keep an eye out for the Important dates below as there is a lot going on this term. Thanks for choosing Fergusson Intermediate, thanks for your support and thanks for providing us with great kids. It's an absolute pleasure working alongside them and the team. Nga mihi nui.

Have a wonderful weekend
Simon Kenny
Principal

Staffing news

A huge welcome to Mr Balmforth who has settled in this term replacing Karen Van Arsdale in Room 15.

Unfortunately and sadly, Mrs Linda Gendall will be taking leave for the remainder of Term. Linda is facing a challenging health issue and we are sure you join us in sending her our best wishes and support. Linda did not want this to be a disruptive time for the students, and their wellbeing and school experience has been a priority for her as she made her arrangements.

We are able to let you know that Miss Marina Taylor has agreed to relieve in Room 1 for this time. Miss Taylor has been teaching regularly around the school this year, and she will be a familiar face for the students. She is also familiar with the school, the classes and routines. This will ensure there is minimal disruption for the students during what is always a busy Term.

Tremendous Makeover Planting At Trentham School

Please mark **Saturday 12 May** into your calendars. This is the official day of our Tremendous Makeover. Trentham School requires support from our community for planting and mulching. They are asking that all helpers please bring named gear - wheelbarrows, gloves, spades, shovels. Here's the draft run sheet for the morning:

8:00 am	Site set up
8:30 am	Mazda NZ and Mazda Dealership staff arrive
8:45 am	Volunteers start arriving, tea and coffee served
9:00 am	Welcome
9:15 am	Start work, tasks include: Planting, mulch the plants
10:15 am	Break for morning tea (please bring a plate to share for morning tea)
10:45 am	Back to work, complete makeover
12.00 pm	Clean up and photos
12:10 pm	Speeches
12:30 pm	Lunch/Finish work/clean up and go home

Any people who are able to help improve our local primary school's environment would be much appreciated.

Fergy Fund Finders - Pie Fundraiser

Please send your Centra Bakery Pie orders to the school office. These have been hugely popular in previous years and there's still time to place an order for delivery on Thursday 24 May.. Additional order forms are available on our website www.fergusson.school.nz or alternatively phone the school office 528 7023 to place an order.

Performing Arts Term 2

This term, in addition to last terms groups, there are several new Performing Arts extension activities available. Digital Music Maker will be a chance to learn how to use computers and keyboards to create and change music, even a chance to be a DJ! Wearable Arts is for those who want to get involved in Costume Design and Performing Arts (TOM) will be for students who are working as part of the Tournament of the Minds competition. If you are interested in joining any of the activities below please

check notices daily, speak to Miss Fuller or email: kfuller@fergusson.school.nz



Performing Arts Extension Groups Term 2

What	Where	When
Digital Music Maker	Performing Arts	Monday Lunch
Musical Theatre/Glee	Hall	Tuesday Lunch
Wearable Arts	Performing Arts	Wednesday and Thursday (3-4pm)
Ukulele group	Performing Arts	Thursday Lunch
Band	Performing Arts	Thursday (1.30-2.15pm & 2.15-3pm)
Performing Arts (TOM)	Hall	Friday (11-11.45) Non Assembly Weeks
Choir	Hall	Friday (11.45-12.25)
Drama	Hall	Friday (1.30-2.15)
Dance	Hall	Friday (2.15-3)
Drum Lessons*	Performing Arts	Wednesday
Guitar Lessons*	Performing Arts	Thursday
Keyboard Lessons *	Performing Arts	Friday

*Drum, Guitar and Keyboard lessons are taught by outside teachers. Please see Miss Fuller for details of lessons.

Year 7 Vision Screening Programme

Regional Public Health provides a vision screening for all Year 7 students.

- **Vision** – Pupils will be advised of results at the time of screening. If further assessment is recommended you will be notified by mail.
- **Children who wear glasses** and/or are under professional care and have regular checks will not require a vision check from our service.

Non consent – please notify your school if you do not want your child being screened.

This screening is not a full assessment of your child's vision. If you have any concerns, please see an optometrist. If you have any queries please contact: Gail Ratana (Vision & Hearing Technician) 04 570 9030

Important Dates for Term 2

14 May	Girls Football (Wakefield Park)
15 May	Boys Football (Wakefield Park)
17 May	Fergy Sport commences
18 May	Pink Shirt Day - dress in a pink shirt to raise awareness about bullying https://www.pinkshirtday.org.nz/
22 May	National Young Leaders Day - Student Council attending
24 May	ITM Junior Tough Girl Tough Guy Competition
29 May	ICAS Science Exam
	Year 8 Heretaunga College visit 9-10.30am
4 June	Queen's Birthday

6 June	Upper Hutt College Open Morning 9-11.30am
11 June	Boostrix for Year 7 students
13 June	Inter-Intermediate Hockey (Boys) National Stadium Wellington Upper Hutt College Open Evening 6pm
14 June	ICAS Spelling Exam
15 June	ICAS Writing Exam Year 7 Vision Testing (Year 8 catch ups)
20 June	WIG Wednesday - Supporting Child Cancer Foundation - Gold Coin Donation to wear a wig
26 June	Board of Trustees Meeting 6.30pm
28 June	Term 2 Disco
29 June	Japanese Exchange with Heretaunga College (Languages) Paid Union Meeting - further notice to follow
3 July	Kapa haka and PolyFIS Rehearsal (during school hours) PolyFIS performance 6-7.45pm Reports home
4 July	Kapa haka performance 7.15-9pm
6 July	Term 2 concludes
23 July	Term 3 commences

Enrolment Zone

The Fergusson BOT is currently in discussion with the MOE (Ministry of Education) in relation to implementing an enrolment zone. As you are most likely aware our current student numbers are very high. Implementing an enrolment zone is a way for schools to manage their numbers and ensure class sizes are appropriate. At this stage we are discussing what this will look like and what options are available. At a later stage community consultation will take place. This is purely a notification that discussions have been taking place and we hope to have an enrollment scheme in place for 2019. You can learn more about [enrolment schemes here](#): or by visiting <https://parents.education.govt.nz/primary-school/schooling-in-nz/enrolment-schemes-zoning>

Online behaviours

We have a lot of students who are active on social media outside of school. This is not something we, as a school, can control, however we do educate our students as part of the health and well-being curriculum about the risks, responsibilities and issues that can arise around social media use. Our advice to all parents, caregivers and whanau is to talk with your children about their social media use and what they are doing / seeing online. There have been some major adjustments to the law around cyber-bullying and online offenses including the very serious act of [incitement to suicide](http://www.netsafe.org.nz/incitement-to-suicide) (www.netsafe.org.nz/incitement-to-suicide) which is one of many topics discussed in the Harmful Technologies Act. This is a [fantastic resource](#) for parents and whanau, www.dia.govt.nz/Censorship-Useful-Links

Cellphones at school are collected by teachers in the morning and handed back in the afternoon. Any calls home or messages for parents and whanau can go through the phone in the office. If students are seen using cellphones at break times they are taken and can be collected by parents at a later date. Keeping our kids safe at school and online is a top priority for us.

Student Perspective

Wow, what can we say! Term 2 already, so many amazing opportunities and events have already happened! Interschool athletics, Mike Kings performance, Kapa Haka, Pacifica, [Sorani Bushi dance](#) and much, much more! This term a lot more opportunities will be available! We are all looking forward to Fergy Sport this term and a huge thanks to Ms Marshall for making this possible. Thanks also to Mr Banks, and all our great teachers for the languages programme. We know you learners are all excited about languages this term! Remember to keep on voting with your tokens for our special RISE day, this term's focus is INTEGRITY! Make sure that you all get involved in as much as you can, I know that there is a lot to offer in performing arts! Thank you, from the student councilors team, hope you have a blast this term. **-Dominic Burns & Lucy Klee**